

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/711,591

Examiner

JEFFREY NICKERSON

Applicant(s)

BURR ET AL.

Art Unit

2442

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 29 October 2009.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-9,13-16,19-23,29 and 30.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application  |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>20100226</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____    | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment  |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance                         |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

/Asad M Nawaz/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2455

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kellan Ponikiewicz (59,701) on 26 February 2010.

2. The claim listing beginning on the next page shall replace all prior versions of the claims.

Art Unit: 2442

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A method for providing a uniform network address, for a user accessing a computer on a network, independent of the computer the user is accessing, the method comprising:

(a) obtaining, by an interface mechanism executing on a first computer having a computer host name and a computer internet protocol address to connect to a network, a plurality of virtual host names, each of the plurality of virtual host names comprising a host name uniquely identifying a user session from a plurality of user sessions hosted on the first computer;

(b) obtaining, by the interface mechanism executing on the first computer, a plurality of internet protocol addresses, wherein none of the internet protocol addresses are previously reserved for a particular user;

(c) (b)-assigning, by the interface mechanism executing on the first computer and from the plurality of virtual host names, a first virtual host name to a first user session for ~~of~~-a first user accessing the network via the first computer;

(d) assigning, by the interface mechanism executing on the first computer and from the plurality of internet protocol addresses, a first internet protocol address to the first user session;

(e) (c)-assigning, by the interface mechanism executing on the first computer and from the plurality of virtual host names, a second virtual host name, different from the first virtual host name, to a second user session for ~~of~~-a second user accessing the network via the first computer;

(f) assigning, by the interface mechanism executing on the first computer and from the plurality of internet protocol addresses, a second internet protocol address different from the first internet protocol address, to the second user session;

(g) (d)-accessing, by the first user session, the network using the first virtual host name with the ~~a~~-first internet protocol address ~~of the first user, the first internet protocol address communicated via the first computer;~~

~~(h) (e)~~-accessing, by the second user session, the network using the second virtual host name with ~~the a-second internet protocol address of the second user, the second internet protocol address communicated via the first computer;~~

~~(i) (f)~~-assigning, by the interface mechanism executing on a second computer and from the plurality of virtual host names, the first virtual host name to a third user session ~~for of the first user accessing the network via the a-second computer;~~ and

~~(j) (g)~~ assigning, by the interface mechanism executing on the second computer, a third internet protocol address to the third user session; and

~~(k) (h)~~-accessing, by the third user session, the network using the first virtual host name with ~~the a-third internet protocol address of the first user, the third internet protocol address communicated via the second computer.~~

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising claim 2, wherein step (a) further comprises obtaining at least one of the plurality of internet protocol addresses from a Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol server.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising 2, wherein step (a) further comprises reserving at least one of the obtained plurality of internet protocol addresses for at least one of the first user session and the second user session.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising wherein step (d) further comprises associating the first internet protocol address with the first virtual host name.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising wherein step (e) further comprises associating the second internet protocol address with the second virtual host name.

Art Unit: 2442

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) further comprises registering, with a name resolution service, at least one of the plurality of virtual host names to ~~at least one of~~ either the first user session and the second user session.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the name resolution service comprises one of a Domain Name Service and a Windows Internet Naming Service.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the virtual host name identifies a program used by the user.

10-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~wherein step (e) further comprises~~ assigning, while the second user accesses the first computer, a fourth virtual host name and a fourth internet protocol address to the second user session accessing a second computer ~~and associating the fourth virtual host name with an internet protocol address of the second computer.~~

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) further comprises naming at least one of the plurality of virtual host names with a portion of the characters representing the user's identity on the network.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) further comprises naming at least one of the plurality of virtual host names with a suffix identifying the session of the user when the user is concurrently accessing multiple computers on the network.

16. (Currently amended) A system for providing a uniform network address, for a user accessing a computer on a network, independent of the computer the user is accessing, the system comprising:

Art Unit: 2442

a server on a network, the server providing a plurality of virtual host names, each of the plurality of virtual host names comprising a host name uniquely identifying a user session from a plurality of user sessions ~~hosted on a first computer;~~

~~a the~~ first computer having a computer host name and a computer internet protocol address to connect to a network;

an interface mechanism executing on the first computer to:

obtain a plurality of virtual host names,

obtain a plurality of internet protocol addresses, wherein none of the internet protocol addresses are previously reserved for a particular user,

assign, from the plurality of virtual host names, a first virtual host name to a first user session ~~for~~ of a first user accessing the network via the first computer, and

assign from the plurality of internet protocol addresses, a first internet protocol address to the first user session,

assign, from the plurality of virtual host names, a second virtual host name different from first virtual host name, to a second user session for a second user accessing the network via the first computer,

assign from the plurality of internet protocol addresses, a second internet protocol address different from the first internet protocol address, to the second user session;

~~assign the first virtual host name to a third user session of the first user accessing the network via a second computer;~~

the first user session accessing the network using the first virtual host name with ~~the~~ a first internet protocol address ~~of the first user, the first internet protocol address communicated via the first computer;~~

the second user session accessing the network using the second virtual host name with ~~the~~ a second internet protocol address ~~of the second user, the second internet protocol address communicated via the first computer; and~~

an interface mechanism executing on a second computer to:

assign the first virtual host name to a third user session for a first user  
accessing the network via the second computer, and

assign a third internet protocol address to the third user session; and  
the third user session accessing the network using the first virtual host name with  
~~the a third internet protocol address of the first user, the third internet protocol address~~  
~~communicated via the second computer.~~

17-18. (Cancelled).

19. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the server obtains at least one of the plurality of internet protocol addresses from a Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol server.

20. (Currently amended) The system of claim 16, wherein the server reserves at least one of the obtained plurality of internet protocol addresses for ~~at least one of~~ either the first user and the second user.

21. (Previously presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the network interface associates the at least one reserved internet protocol address with at least one of the first virtual host name and the second virtual host name.

22. (Currently amended) The system of claim 16, wherein the system further comprises a name resolution service to register at least one of the plurality of virtual host names ~~to at least one of the first user and the second user.~~

23. (Previously presented) The system of claim 22, wherein the name resolution service further comprises one of a Domain Name Service and a Windows Internet Naming Service.

24-28. (Cancelled).

29. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the name of at least one of the plurality of virtual host names comprises a portion of the characters representing the user's identity on the network.

30. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the name of the least one of the plurality of virtual host names comprises a suffix identifying the session of the user when the user is concurrently accessing multiple computers on the network.



### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The inventions of claims 1 and 16 are directed to a method and system for assigning unique host names to user sessions for communications over a network. A user's host name follows the user independent of the computer with which the user accesses the network. Each user session is also assigned an IP address, which has not been reserved for any particular user.

The prior art of record discloses assigning a reserved IP address (or one from a pool of reserved IP addresses) to a user session based on the user, and further discloses the use of host names. Thus if a reserved IP address had a corresponding hostname, the hostname would follow the user independent of the computer with which the user accesses the network because the reserved IP follows the user. However, the prior art of record fails to disclose or render obvious assigning a non-reserved IP address to a user session, and having a hostname for the user follow the user independent of the computer with which the user accesses the network.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JEFFREY NICKERSON whose telephone number is (571)270-3631. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th, 9:00am - 7:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571)272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/J. N./

Examiner, Art Unit 2442

**/Asad M Nawaz/**

**Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2455**